CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for correcting an aspect ratio of each of a predetermined number of images captured by an image capture device comprising the steps of:

(a) cropping each of the predetermined number of images to a predetermined shape; and

(b) providing each of the predetermined number of images to a display buffer.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined shape is a square.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of:

(c) determining a current image of the predetermined number of images and the particular image;

(d) retrieving the current image;

(e) resizing the current image;

(f) providing the current image to the display buffer; and

(g) providing the display buffer to a display.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the predetermined number of images is four images.

5. The method of claim 4 further wherein the step of resizing the current image further comprises the step of:

(g1) resizing and cropping the current image.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the image capture device is a digital camera.

7. A method for correcting an aspect ratio of an image captured by an image capture device comprising the steps of:

(a) determining if the aspect ratio of the image matches a predetermined aspect ratio;

(b) decompressing the image if required;

(c) cropping the image if the aspect ratio does not match the predetermined aspect ratio; and

(d) providing the image to a display.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the step of cropping the image further comprises the step of:

(c1) resizing the image.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the aspect ratio determining step (a) further comprises the step of:

(a1) determining the aspect ratio of the image; and

(a2) determining if the aspect ratio of the image matches an aspect ratio of the display.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the image capture device is a digital camera.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the display is an LCD screen.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the image is a screennail image.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:

(e) updating the screennail image with a higher resolution image.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of updating the screennail image further comprises the steps of:

(e1) retrieving the higher resolution image;

(e2) determining if the higher resolution image requires cropping;

(e3) decompressing the higher resolution image;

(e4) cropping the higher resolution image if the higher resolution image requires cropping; and

(e5) providing the higher resolution image to a display.

15. A system for correcting the aspect ratio of an image captured by an

image capture unit comprising:

means for determining if the image requires cropping;

means coupled to the determining means for decompressing the image if required;

means coupled to the decompressing means for cropping the image if the image requires cropping; and

means coupled to the cropping means for providing the image to a display.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein the decompressing means further comprise:

means for decompressing and resizing the image.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein the determining means further comprise:

means for determining the aspect ratio of the image; and

matching means coupled to the aspect ratio determining means for determining if the aspect ratio of the image matches an aspect ratio of the display.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein the display is an LCD screen.

19. The system of claim 18 wherein the image capture device is a digital camera.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the image is a screennail image.

21. The system of claim 20 further comprising:

means for updating the screennail image with a higher resolution image.

22. The system of claim 21 wherein the means for updating the screennail image further comprise:

means for retrieving the higher resolution image;

means coupled to the higher resolution image retrieving means for determining if the higher resolution image requires cropping;

means coupled to the higher resolution image determining means for decompressing the higher resolution image;

means coupled to the higher resolution image decompressing means for cropping the higher resolution image if the higher resolution image requires cropping; and

means coupled to the higher resolution image cropping means for providing the higher resolution image to a display.

23. A system for correcting the aspect ratio of a predetermined number of images captured by a digital camera comprising:

means for cropping each of the predetermined number of images to a predetermined shape; and

means coupled to the cropping means for providing each of the

predetermined number of images to a display buffer.

24. The system of claim 23 wherein the predetermined shape is a square.

25. The system of claim 24 further comprising:

means for determining a current image of the predetermined number of images and the particular image;

means coupled to the current image determining means for retrieving the current image;

means coupled to the current image determining means for resizing the current image;

means coupled to the current image resizing means for providing the current image to the display buffer; and

means coupled to the current image providing means for providing the display buffer to a display.

26. The system of claim 25 further wherein the current image resizing means further comprise:

means for resizing and cropping the current image.

27. The system of claim 25 wherein the image capture device is a digital camera.